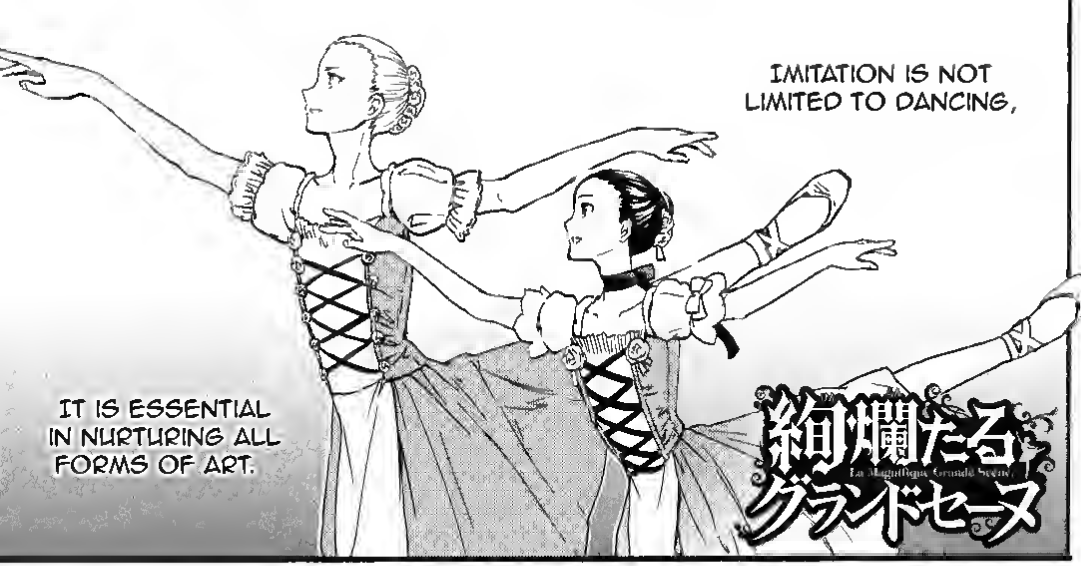
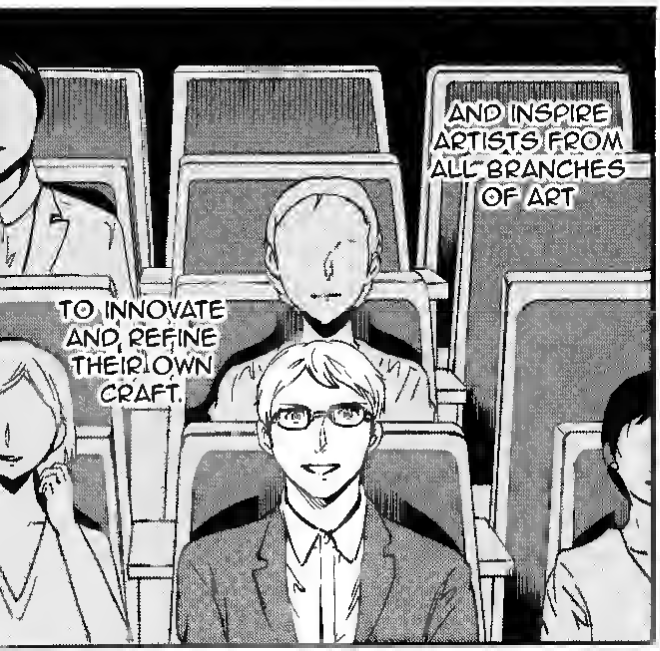

IMITATION IS NOT LIMITED TO DANCING,
IT IS ESSENTIAL IN NURTURING ALL FORMS OF ART.
絢爛たるグランドセーヌ
La Brillante Grande Scène


AND INSPIRE ARTISTS FROM ALL BRANCHES OF ART
TO INNOVATE AND REFINE THEIR OWN CRAFT.

SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT ARE BUT THE PRODUCT OF REFINEMENT,
THEY TEACH NEW GENERATIONS THROUGH IMITATION.
MANFRED by LORDBYRON

THIS STORY IS THE JOURNEY OF BUT ONE ARTIST.

AHEAD OF HER LIES A STEEP ROAD,
BUT, GUIDED BY HER PREDECESSORS,
SHE MOVES FORWARD,
ONE STEP AT A TIME,

Scène.013 A New Generation
TO THE VERY END.

AAAH!
THAT WAS SO FUN!
KANA-DE.
YOU'RE A VERY BOLD ONE, AREN'T YOU?
DID YOU WATCH MY SWAN-HILDA?!
SAKURA KURISU!

AH...
YOU COULD TELL?
I COULD SEE THROUGH YOUR VENEER,
YOURS?
THAT'S NOT YOURS, ISN'T IT?
WHO DID YOU IMITATE?
IT LOOKED VERY ROYAL-LIKE.
YOU EVEN INTRODUCED THESE USELESS PORTIONS TO STAY TRUE TO THE ORIGINAL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE,
HOW UNSIGHT-LY!

...WHAT?
PERSONALLY, I THOUGHT KANADE WAS BETTER THAN YOU, THOUGH...
THANK YOU~
SHE COULDN'T EVEN PERFORM HER CHOREOGRAPHY PERFECTLY!
I JUST DON'T SEE IT...
JUST WATCHING HER MADE ME SMILE,
I PREFERRED KANADE.
UM... ME TOO,
!
RE-
REALLY?!
IF I WERE COPPÉLIA I'D DEFINITELY ACCEPT HER INVITATION.

KANADE ARIYA,
WH-
WHAT?!
WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT IT?
...I'M SURPRISED YOU REMEMBER MY FULL NAME...
DO YOU THINK MY PERFOR-MANCE
WAS INFERI-OR TO YOURS?
ERR...
UMM...

I'M SORRY!
!
I DIDN'T WATCH
ANY OF IT!!
...
I WAS FOCUS-ING ON SOMEONE BETTER!

YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN, HAVE YOU, THAT IF YOU LOSE,
YOU'LL HAVE TO JOIN OUR "LET'S DANCE FOR FUN!" CLASS?
DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOURSELF, KANADE,
MOST OF THE TIME...!
OF-
OF COURSE NOT!
I'D SOME-TIMES...
FORGET ABOUT IT...
...I MEAN...

WHAT?!
HA,
HA HA,
I DID SAY ONLY SOME-TIMES!
...WHEN I'M DANCING, YOU KNOW?
SWANHILDA IS ENGROSSING, YOU KNOW~
I KNOW IT'S NOT EXACTLY RESPECT-FUL,
BUT I CAN'T HELP IT!
I DID THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH I WANTED TO WIN JUST BEFORE, THOUGH!
BUT ONCE I START DANCING, MY MIND JUST FILLS WITH BALLET,
AND I JUST FORGET ABOUT EVERYTHING ELSE.

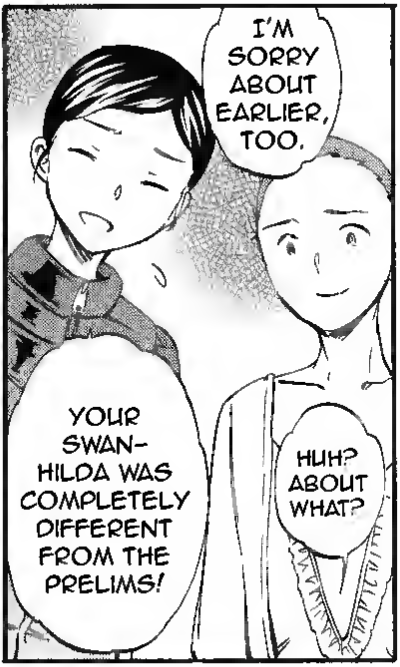
...SO WHAT ABOUT NOW?
YOU THINK I'D JUST... LET IT SLIDE...?
WELL, WE'RE BOTH DONE WITH OUR PERFOR-MANCES!
SO, UMM...
I GUESS THE FUTURE WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF,
...OR SOME-THING?
ぴゃ...
I DESPISE YOU
KA-NADE ARI-YA!
WHY DON'T YOU FAIL ALREADY!

SAKU-
RA!
...
I APOLOGIZE FOR HER BEHAVIOR.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BEING UNSIGHT-LY LIKE THAT...
LET'S REMOVE YOUR MAKEUP.
WOW, THAT WAS SCARY!
THAT GIRL REALLY HAS GOT A LOOSE SCREW...

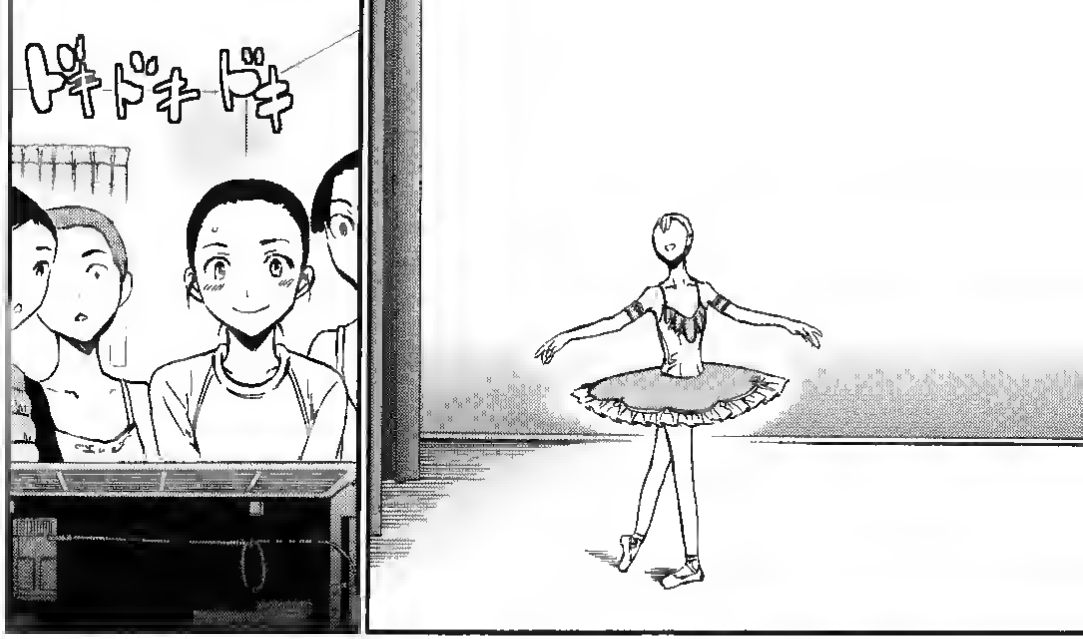
わらわらっ
I GOT A BIT CARRIED AWAY BECAUSE I PERFORMED BETTER THAN USUAL.
HONESTLY, I ALSO THOUGHT YOUR PERFOR-MANCE WAS BETTER...
EEEH?
I THINK I WAS ALSO AT FAULT THERE...

THAT WOULD BE NICE, BUT...
YOU MIGHT EVEN WIN A PRIZE!

わいわいわい


I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER, TOO.
HUH? ABOUT WHAT?
YOUR SWAN-HILDA WAS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE PRELIMS!

KANADE-CHAN!
SHOUKO-CHAN'S TURN IS COMING UP!
AH!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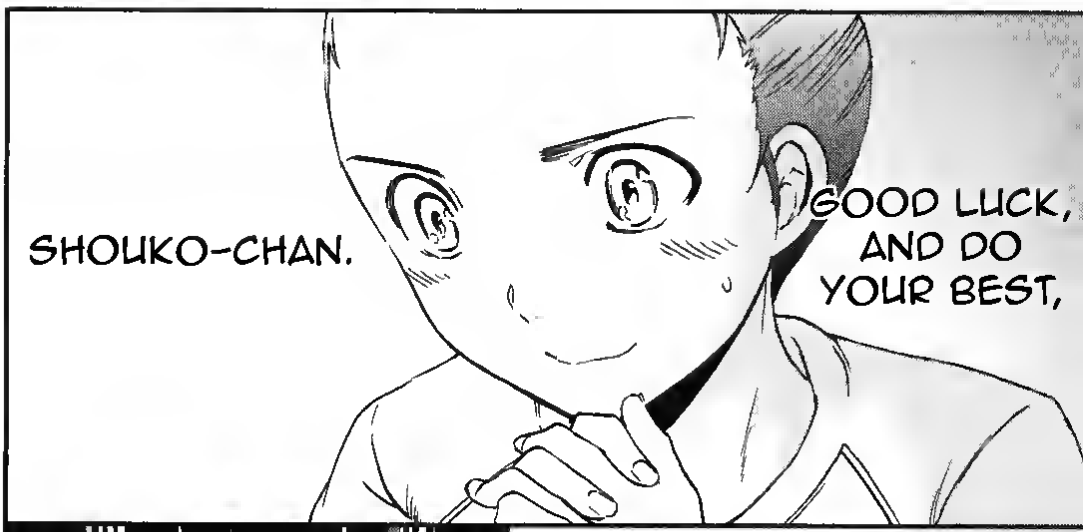
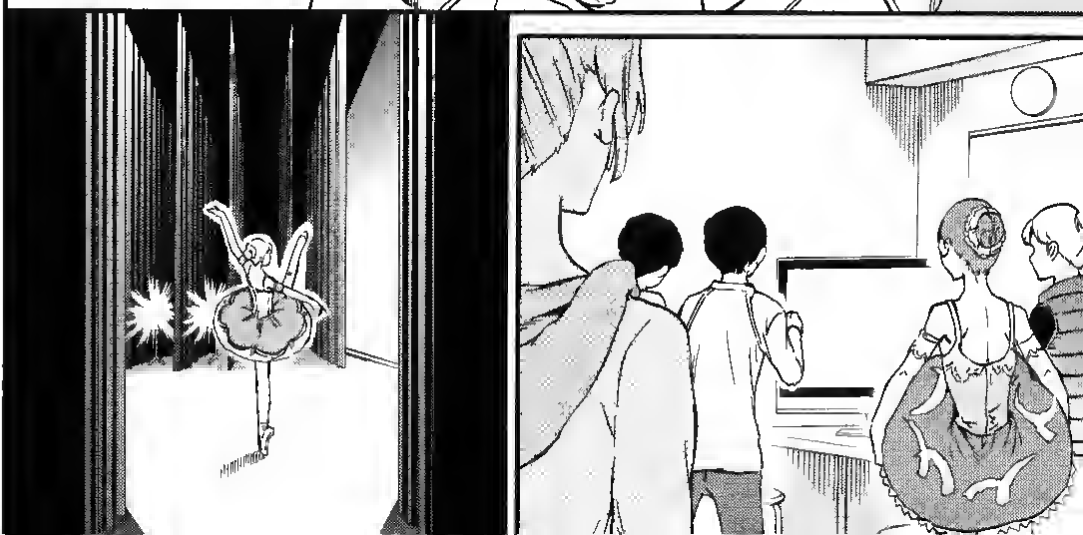
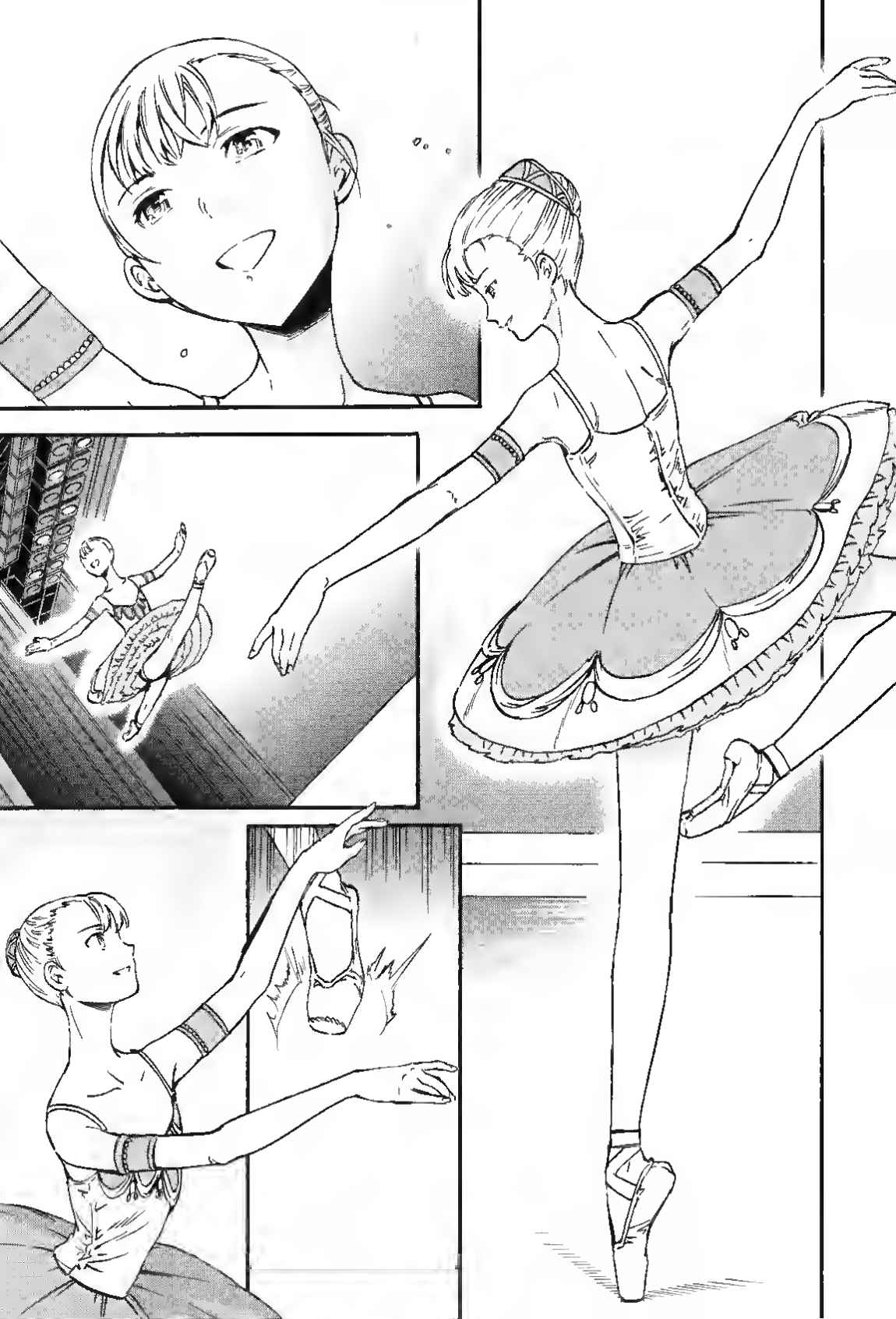
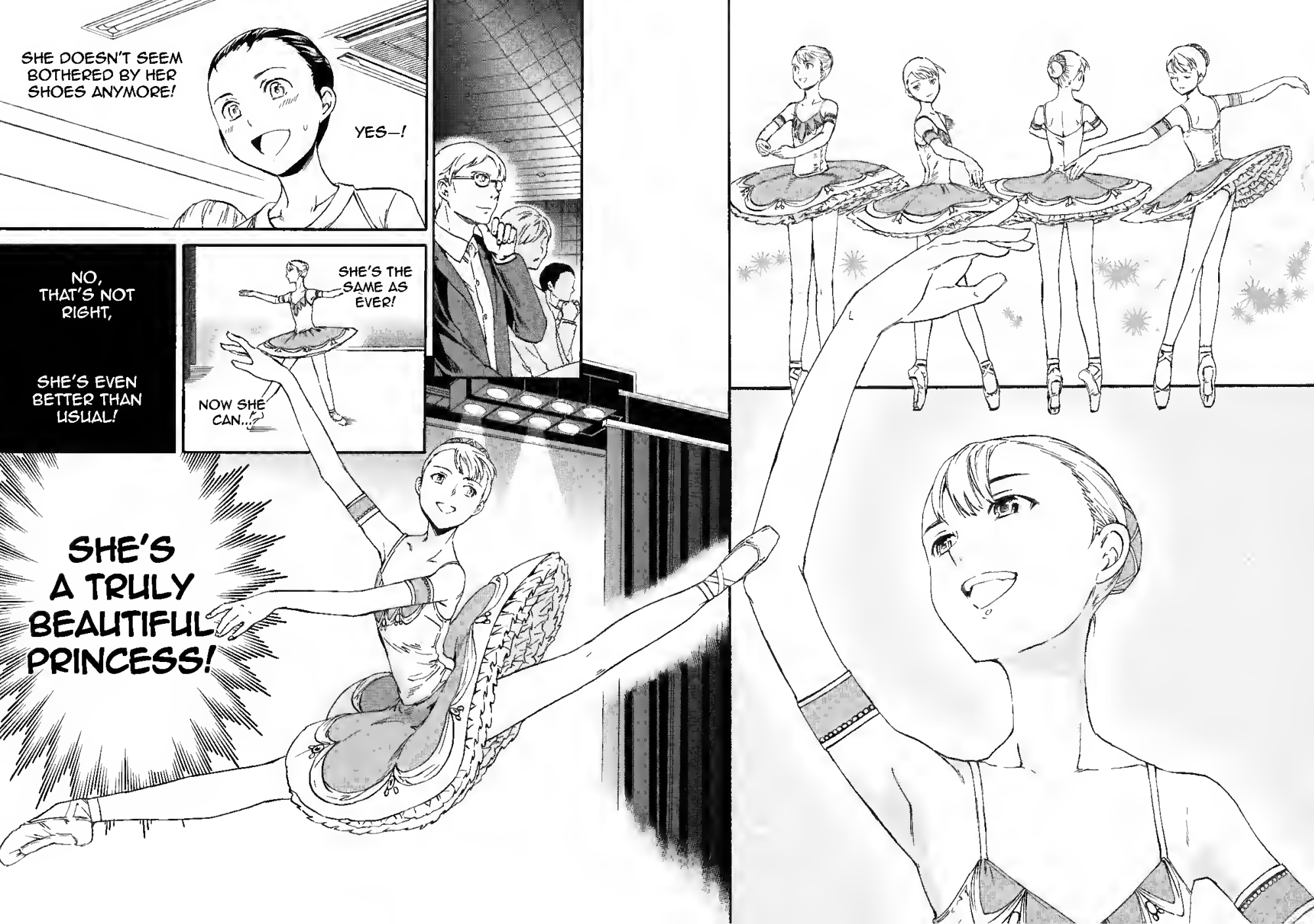

GOOD LUCK, AND DO YOUR BEST, SHOUKO-CHAN.

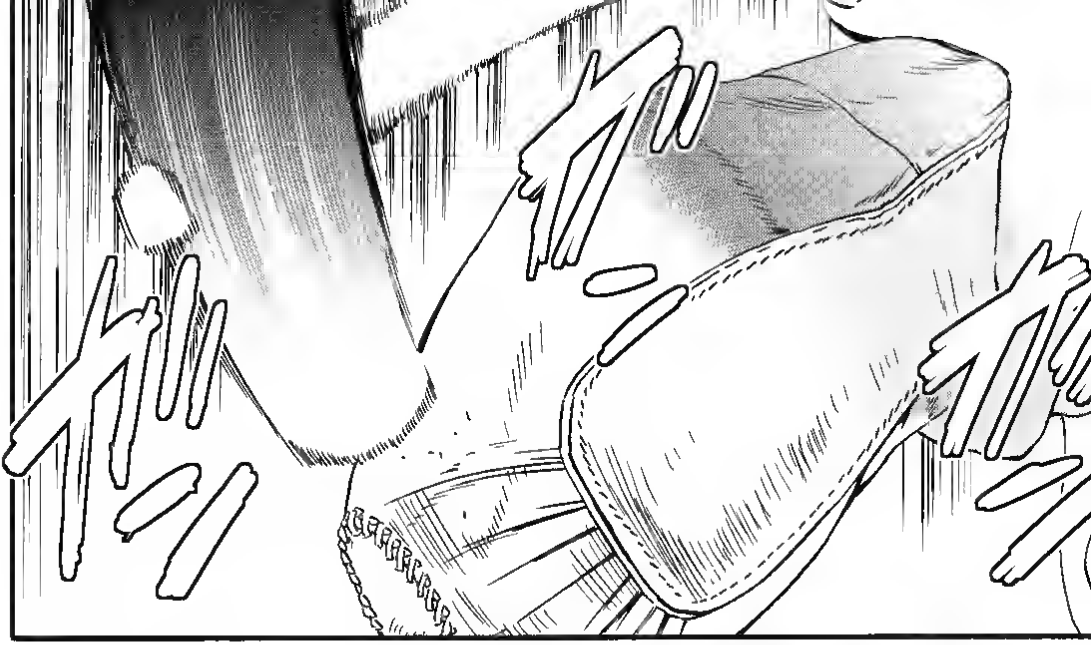





SHE DOESN'T SEEM BOTHERED BY HER SHOES ANYMORE!
YES—!
NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT,
SHE'S EVEN BETTER THAN USUAL!
SHE'S THE SAME AS EVER!
NOW SHE CAN...
SHE'S A TRULY BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS!

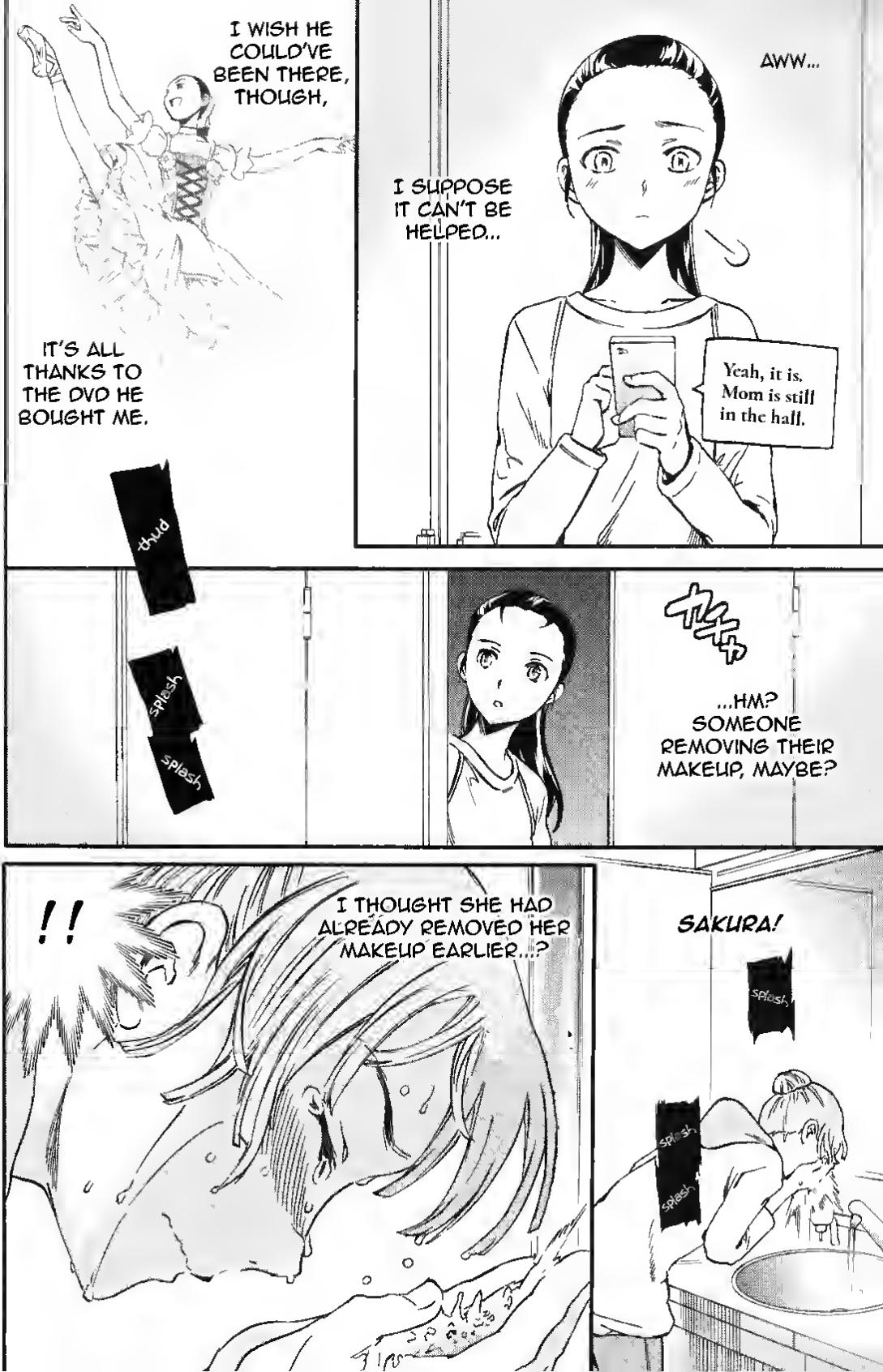
ぱち
ぱち
ぱち
ぱち
ぱち
♪!
WOW...
SHE'S ALSO SO MUCH BETTER THAN BEFORE.
WHAT'S YOUR SECRET?
SHE CHANGED HER SHOES!
SHE SIMPLY ADJUSTED THEM!
NO, NOT A DIFFERENT PAIR,
SHE GOT A NEW PAIR MADE JUST BEFORE THE FINALS?!

IT FELT GREAT NOT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT MY SHOES!
TAKI-MOTO-SENSEI!
YOU GAVE A GREAT PERFOR-MANCE, SHOUKO!
I KNEW THE MOMENT I LANDED THE FIRST JUMP!
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, SENSEI!
AND THEN YOU—
I WAS A BIT WORRIED WHEN YOU WERE DONE STITCH-ING,



I DIDN'T WANT TO PUT A STAIN ON YOUR REPUTATION...
STILL... I'M SO HAPPY I DIDN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKE,
Pay attention to your fingers, okay?
I think I can do it myself from now on
BUT WOW, IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM!
I- I'M SORRY...
YOU SHOULD BE DANCING FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, SHOUKO.
AWW, STOP WORRYING ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT,

WE SHOULD HEAD BACK TO THE HALL AND WATCH THE REST OF THE COMPETITION WITH THE OTHERS.
NOTHING LEFT BEHIND?
NOPE.
AL-RIGHT!
WC
THANK YOU, MIWA-SENSEI!
I'LL CARRY YOUR THINGS FOR YOU THEN, OKAY?
LET ME JUST GO TO THE TOILET REAL QUICK.
OH, DADDY!
I just arrived from work, is your turn over already?
AH, OOPS, I HAD MY PHONE IN MY POCKETS ALL THIS TIME, GOOD THING I DIDN'T DROP IT...
BZZZZ BZZZZ


I WISH HE COULD'VE BEEN THERE, THOUGH,
IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE DVD HE BOUGHT ME.
AWW...
I SUPPOSE IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
Yeah, it is. Mom is still in the hall.
thud
splash
splash
カチャ
...HM? SOMEONE REMOVING THEIR MAKEUP, MAYBE?
!!
I THOUGHT SHE HAD ALREADY REMOVED HER MAKEUP EARLIER...?
SAKURA!
splash
splash
splash

OH...
I'M SORRY!
HOW?

HOW ARE YOU CATCHING UP AL-READY?!
BOTH YOU AND HER,
YOU WERE COM-PLETELY DIFFERENT DURING YOUR RECITAL,
HECK, EVEN TWO DAYS AGO!
HOW DID YOU PRO-GRESS SO QUICKLY?
JUST... WHAT HAP-PENED?

SINCE THAT DAY,
I'VE BEEN PRACTICING FOR LONGER THAN USUAL, EVERY SINGLE DAY.
YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE CLOSED THE GAP THAT MUCH IN SUCH A SHORT TIME!!
YOUR TEACH-ER,
JUST WHO THE HELL IS SHE?!

EH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
SAKU-RA!!
MOM PROM-ISED ME
THAT THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN...!
SAKU...
SAKU-RA!
WAIT, SAKU-RA!

I LOST SIGHT OF HER, WHERE IS SHE...?
??
SHHH!
AH...
すん
AH, MOM AND THE OTHERS.
And daddy's there too
BECAUSE OF ME?
SAKURA WAS CRYING...
YOU WERE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...
BOTH YOU AND HER
BECAUSE OF ME AND SHOUKO-CHAN...?

KANA-DE?
SOME OF THEM DIDN'T LOOK THAT DIFFERENT FROM ADULTS...
AS EXPECTED, MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ARE ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL, HUH.
HUH?
AH... UM... NOTHING.
WHAT'S THIS FACE FOR, THIS TIME?
YEAH.
THOUGH IT'S NOT THAT I'M TIRED.
BUT IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO LONG UNTIL THEY ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS ANYMORE.
I KNOW YOU MUST BE TIRED BEING UP ALL DAY,
I CAN'T GET THIS SIGHT OUT OF MY MIND.

THANK YOU FOR YOU PATIENCE UNTIL NOW.
WE WILL NOW BEGIN ANNOUNCING THE RESULTS OF THE 18TH NATIONAL BALLET COMPETITION,
BOTH OF YOU SHOULD GO SIT IN THE FRONT.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THEN,
OKAY
BUT SHE SHOULD BE HERE NOW, RIGHT?
IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CATEGORY-
IT'S HAPPENING!

I'D BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE AN AWARD, BUT...
3RD BRONZE MEDALIST, TSUBASA SHIBAURA-SAN.
BEING CALLED BEFORE SAKURA WOULD MEAN THAT I LOST...
2ND BRONZE MEDALIST,
KANADE ARIYA-SAN.